IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Int. Appl. No. : PCT/JP2004/019560 Int. Filing Date : December 27, 2004

Application No. : Not Yet Assigned Confirmation No. N/A

Applicant : Takashi Kumabe et al.

Filed : Herewith TC/A.U. : N/A Examiner : N/A

Title : AUTOMATIC VENDING MACHINE

Docket No. : NIS-16741 Customer No. : 040854

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT "A"

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

- Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.
- Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.